

SENIOR AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST



DEPARTMENTAL OPEN EXAMINATION

SPOT - SACRAMENTO

AQ30/0186 (4FA60)

An equal opportunity employer to all regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, disability, religious or political affiliation, age, or sexual orientation. It is an objective of the State of California to achieve a drug-free state workplace. Any applicant for State employment will be expected to behave in accordance with this objective because the use of illegal drugs is inconsistent with the law of the State, the rules governing civil service, and the special trust placed in public servants.

WHO SHOULD APPLY Applicants who meet the minimum qualifications as stated below. This is a departmental open examination. Applications will not be accepted on a promotional basis. Career credits do not apply.

HOW TO APPLY Applications (Form 678) are available and may be submitted to the California Department of Food and Agriculture no later than the Final Filing Date, November 18, 2004:

California Department of Food and Agriculture
Human Resources Branch
Attention: Rhoda Jones
1220 N Street, Suite A-151
Sacramento, CA 95814

APPLICATION DEADLINE DO NOT SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE STATE PERSONNEL BOARD.
FILING DATE: NOVEMBER 18, 2004.

TEST DATE Applications (STD 678) must be POSTMARKED no later than the final filing date. Applications postmarked, personally delivered, or received via interoffice mail after the final filing-date will not be accepted for any reason.
It is anticipated that the examination will be sometime in:
December 2004 or January 2005.

TESTING METHOD The testing method used may be one or a combination of the following: ORAL OR WRITTEN EXAMINATION, EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE OR SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION.

SPECIAL TESTING ARRANGEMENTS If you have a disability and need special arrangements, mark the appropriate box in #2 of the application. You will be contacted to make specific arrangements. If you have not been contacted by the time you receive a notice to appear at a test, call the California Department of Food and Agriculture Exam Unit at (916) 654-0422.

REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION NOTE: Applicants are required to bring either a photo identification card or two forms of signed identification to each phase of the examination.

SALARY RANGE \$4963 - \$5988

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION NOTE: The salaries used in this bulletin are the latest available from the State Controller's Office, but may not reflect all of the pay raises granted recently. You should verify the salary levels with the department personnel office before making any commitments.

A Departmental "Open" list will be established for the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The eligible list will be abolished 12 months after it is established unless the needs of the service and conditions of the list warrant a change in this period.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMITTANCE TO THE EXAMINATION NOTE: IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE YOU MEET THE EDUCATION AND/OR EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS AS STATED BELOW. YOUR SIGNATURE ON YOUR APPLICATION INDICATES THAT YOU HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD, AND POSSESS THE BASIC QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS NOTE: ALL APPLICATIONS/RESUMES MUST INCLUDE: "TO" AND "FROM" DATES (MONTH/DAY/YEAR); TIME BASE; AND JOB TITLES. APPLICATIONS/RESUMES RECEIVED WITHOUT THIS INFORMATION MAY BE REJECTED.

Qualifying experience may be combined on a proportionate basis if the requirements stated below include more than one pattern and are distinguished as "Either" I, "Or" II, "Or" III, etc. For example, candidates possessing qualifying experience amounting to 50 percent of the required time of Pattern I, and additional experience amounting to 50 percent of the required time of Pattern II, may be admitted to the examination as meeting 100 percent of the overall experience requirement.

Either I

Two years of experience in the California state service performing the duties of an Associate Agricultural Economist.

Or II

EXPERIENCE: Five years of progressively responsible technical experience in the field of agricultural economics in one or a combination of the following fields:

- 1. State or Federal marketing programs for agricultural commodities. or
- 2. Voluntary industry organized marketing programs, cooperative marketing associations or trade associations involving analysis or solution of marketing problems concerning agricultural commodities. or
- 3. Research or teaching work at the college level relating to the marketing of agricultural commodities. or
- 4. Price control activities relating to agricultural commodities.

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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS CONTINUED...	<p>(Completion of graduate work for a Master's Degree in Agricultural Economics may be substituted for one year of the required experience; completion of graduate work for a doctor's degree in agricultural economics may be substituted for three years of the required experience.) <u>and</u></p> <p><u>EDUCATION:</u> Equivalent to graduation from college with a major in economics or agricultural economics. <i>(Additional qualifying experience may be substituted for the required education on a year-for-year basis.)</i></p> <p><i>NOTE: COPY OF TRANSCRIPTS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH YOUR APPLICATION IN ORDER TO VERIFY DEGREES IN THE APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINES. FAILURE TO SUBMIT YOUR TRANSCRIPTS MAY RESULT IN A DELAY IN YOUR APPROVAL TO COMPETE IN THE EXAMINATION.</i></p>	
POSITION DESCRIPTION	<p>Under general direction, to represent the Director of Food and Agriculture in the development and administration of agricultural marketing programs other than in the direct marketing area; to supervise, design and review a group of programs in an assigned field of agricultural marketing activity other than in the direct marketing area; to plan, organize, and direct agricultural economic research and survey studies; to serve as a staff specialist and adviser for a particular field requiring economic study; and to do other related work.</p>	
EXAMINATION INFORMATION	<p>This examination will consist of a Qualification Appraisal Interview only. The interview will include a number of predetermined job-related questions.</p> <p><i>Competitors who do not appear for the interview will be disqualified.</i></p> <p>In order to obtain a position on the eligible list, a minimum rating of 70% must be attained in the interview.</p> <p>QUALIFICATIONS APPRAISAL INTERVIEW – WEIGHTED 100%</p> <p><i>The California Department of Food and Agriculture and the State Personnel Board reserves the right to revise the examination plan to better meet the needs of the service if the circumstances under which this examination was planned change. Such revision will be in accordance with civil service laws and rules and all competitors will be notified.</i></p>	
SCOPE OF EXAM AND SCOPE OF ON-THE-JOB KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES	<p>In addition to evaluating the competitor’s relative abilities as demonstrated by quality and breadth of experience, emphasis in the examining interview will be on measuring competitively, relative to job demands, each competitors:</p> <p>A. Knowledge:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Principles and methods of research in agricultural economics;2. State and Federal agricultural marketing laws and programs;3. Marketing of agricultural commodities, including marketing by producers, cooperative marketing associations, commercial handlers, and buying habits of consumers;4. Principles and techniques of administrative organization and management;5. Principles of effective supervision;6. Problems of transportation, establishment of prices, tariff and quarantine regulations on agricultural commodities;7. Agricultural labor;8. Agricultural problems related to urban sprawl and land taxation;9. Manager’s/Supervisor’s responsibility for promoting equal opportunity in hiring and employee development and promotion, and for maintaining a work environment that is free of discrimination and harassment. <p>B. Ability to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Promote good public relations with respect to the policies and programs of the Department;2. Compile and analyze difficult economic, statistical, and marketing data;3. Prepare reports on complex economic problems and prepare programs;4. Advise and work with industry boards and committees in connection with marketing programs;5. Analyze situations and take effective action;6. Secure the cooperation of individuals and groups concerned with agricultural marketing problems;7. Communicate effectively;8. Effectively promote equal opportunity in employment and maintain a work ennviroment that is free of discrimination and harassment.	
VETERANS PREFERENCE	<p>Veterans preference credits will not be granted in this examination.</p>	
QUESTIONS?	<p>If you have any questions regarding this announcement, please contact the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Examination Unit, 1220 N Street, Suite A-151, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 654-0422.</p>	

GENERAL INFORMATION

Americans with Disabilities Act, Title II: The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is committed to a strong policy of equal employment opportunity. To this end, CDFA does not discriminate against or exclude any person from participating in the employment process, advancement, benefits of employment, or in the admission and access to programs or activities administered by CDFA on the basis of: race; color; national origin; ancestry; religion; creed; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; pregnancy; age; veteran status; political affiliation; or disability (including AIDS) as required by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities will be made available upon request. Candidates must be able to perform the essential functions of the position with or without reasonable accommodations.

GENERAL INFORMATION CONTINUED...

General Qualifications: Candidates must possess essential personal qualifications including integrity, initiative, dependability, good judgment, and ability to work cooperatively with others; and a state of health consistent with the ability to perform the assigned duties of the class. If an offer of

employment is made, a medical examination may be required. In open examinations, investigation may be made of employment records and personal history and fingerprinting may be required. All job offers are subject to an approval process.

If you meet the requirements stated you may take this examination, which is competitive. Possession of the entrance requirements does not assure a place on the eligible list. Your performance in the examination described on the other side of this bulletin will be compared with the performance of the others who take this test, and all candidates who pass will be ranked according to their scores.

Applications are available at State Personnel Board offices, local offices of the Employment Development Department and the Department noted on the front.

It is the candidate's responsibility to contact the California Department of Food and Agriculture Examinations Unit three (3) days prior to the written test date if s/he has not received his/her notice.

If a candidate's notice of oral interview or performance test fails to reach him/her prior to the day of the interview due to a verified postal error, s/he will be rescheduled upon written request.

For an examination without a written feature it is the candidate's responsibility to contact the California Department of Food and Agriculture Examinations Unit at (916) 654-0422 three (3) weeks after the final filing date if s/he has not received a progress notice.

Examination Locations: When a written test is part of the examination, it will be given in such places in California as the number of candidates and conditions warrant. Ordinarily, oral interviews are scheduled in Sacramento, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. However, locations of interviews may be limited or extended as conditions warrant.

Eligible Lists: Eligible lists established by competitive examination, regardless of date, must be used in the following order: ① sub-divisional promotional, ② departmental promotional, ③ multi-departmental promotional, ④ service-wide promotional, ⑤ departmental open, ⑥ open. Eligible lists will expire in from one (1) to four (4) years unless otherwise stated on this bulletin.

Interview Scope: If an interview is conducted, in addition to the scope described on the other side of this bulletin, the panel may consider education, experience, personal development, personal traits, and fitness. In appraising experience, more weight may be given to the breadth and recency of pertinent experience and evidence of the candidate's ability to accept and fulfill increasing responsibilities than to the length of his/her experience. Evaluation of a candidate's personal development will include consideration of his/her recognition of his/her own training needs; his/her plans for self-development; and the progress s/he has made in his/her efforts toward self-development.

Veterans Preference: California law limits the granting of veterans preference credits to entrance examinations. Directions for applying for veterans preference are on the Veterans Preference Application form which is available from State Personnel Board office or written test proctors.

High School Equivalence: Equivalence to completion of the twelfth (12th) grade may be demonstrated in any one of the following ways: 1) passing the General Education Development (GED) Test; 2) completion of 12 semester units of college-level work; 3) certification from the State Department of Education, a local school board, or high school authorities that the candidate is considered to have education equivalent to graduation from high school; or 4) for clerical and accounting classes, substitution of business college work in place of high school on a year-for-year basis.

TDD is Telecommunications Device for the Deaf and is reachable only from phones equipped with a TDD Device.

CALIFORNIA RELAY (TELEPHONE) SERVICE FOR THE DEAF OR HEARING IMPAIRED:
FROM TDD PHONES: 1-800-735-2929 FROM VOICE PHONES: 1-800-735-2922